Dear Jim, Nixon/Taxes 4/13/74

Last night's TV news had shirt-sleeved GSA Administrator Sampson saying that offer of a million buck for his papers or not, Nixon gave GSA what it regards as a valid "deed" and these papers are now the people's property and Sampson ain't not gonna give 'em up, neither. So there.

Great stuff, even when repeated on early a.m. news today.

Now this seems to me to have meaning over and above the hidden claim that the whole deal was proper and legal, the obvious interpretation.

It means that Sampson et al are claiming that an overtly illegal arrangement was legal and that they are perpetuating the numerous conspiracies to hide the illegality.

Off the top of the head, these are the illegalities all involving conspiracy:

There has to be and was not a finding of national interest in the "gift."
There has to be and was not a finding of national interest in the restrictions.
There has to be agreement to the restrictions. There was not.
All of this has to have been in writing and was not. I have copies.

This also means that there has to have been the same conspiracies to cover the same crimes within IRS, which has twice audited and twice failed to charge or even report these things.

Suppose the deficiencies were recognized and the proper papers were drawn and signed after the first audit and before the second, after all of this got into the news? Is that not recognizition of the illegality of the whole deal?

We discussed day before yesterday your speaking to the Nader people, Plesser in particular, whether they would be interested in pursing this.

In my files, what is relevant includes the government's responses in 2569-70, where I was pro se and the issue rotated around the letter agreement signed by Burke Marshall.

What Rhoads then provided is a copy of the law which says as I have, that there must be these findings and agreements and that thereafter the deal is binding.

Not that the defense against me was not by the estate or its counsel but by the government, one of the results of such deals.

Remember if you talk to Plessar that the first thing the CREEPs did when Common Cause made noises was to transfer all its records to the Archives as part of Nixon's "Presidential papers" and the Archives actually accepted them.

Also relevant, I think, is the Sampson is the second of Hugh Scott's boys in this job and that public questions have been raised about deals they have made with property, one recently if not currently in court in Philadelphia.

HW